

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 HA-05 IO-13 /089 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PHL:BAFLECK:CSCHRISTIAN:PAW  
APPROVED BY EA:RBOAKLEY  
H;DKENNEY (INFO)  
HA:LMORIN (INFO)  
NEA/ARP (INFO)

-----096139 141140Z /17

R 132123Z MAR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA  
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PINS, RP

SUBJECT: MUSLIM PEACE PROPOSAL

REF: STATE 311119, DECEMBER 77

1. AT REQUEST OF ROY WERNER OF THE SFRC STAFF, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OAKLEY MET WITH WERNER AND PETER SCHAEFER OF DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES ON MARCH 7. ALSO PRESENT WERE FLECK AND CHRISTIAN FROM EA/PHL. SCHAEFER HAD CONTACTED WERNER AFTER SEPARATE MEETINGS WITH OFFICERS FROM IO AND HA IN WHICH HE FAILED TO OBTAIN CHANGE IN USG POSITION REGARDING INTERVENTION IN PHILIPPINE MUSLIM SITUATION AS CONVEYED TO HIM BY FLECK IN CONVERSATION REPORTED REFTEL.

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2. SCHAEFER RELATED SUBSTANCE OF MARCH 6 TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH RASHID LUCMAN (IN JIDDA) IN WHICH LUCMAN CONFIRMED TO SCHAEFER THAT THREE GOP AMBASSADORS HAD CONVEYED TO HASHIM SALAMAT AND COORDINATING AND ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC) MARCOS PROPOSAL FOR NEGOTIATIONS TO TAKE PLACE AT AN UNSPECIFIED LOCATION AFTER APRIL 7 INTERIM LEGISLATIVE

ASSEMBLY ELECTION. COMMENTING THAT LUCMAN AND CAC DID NOT TRUST MARCOS, SCHAEFER URGED USG ACTION TO PROMOTE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. OAKLEY AND FLECK DEMURRED, CITING LACK OF NEED FOR OUTSIDE PRESSURE ON GOP WHICH HAD ALREADY PROPOSED NEGOTIATIONS, DECLINE IN USG LEVERAGE ON GOP DURING ELECTION PERIOD, GOP ALLEGATIONS OF USG SUPPORT FOR OPPOSITION CANDIDATES WHICH COULD BE INTENSIFIED BY ANY U.S. SUPPORT OF CAC, USG AND GOP INVOLVEMENT IN MILITARY BASE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH ARE NOW AT CRUCIAL STAGE, AND UN-REALISTIC ATTITUDE OF CAC IN EXPECTING SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN RELATIONS WITH GOP PRIOR TO APRIL 7 ELECTION. INDONESIA, MALAYSIANS, AND SAUDIS WERE MENTIONED AS MORE LIKELY INTERMEDIARIES.

4. SCHAEFER PROPOSED USG ISSUE OFFICIAL STATEMENT SUPPORTING PRINCIPLE OF NEGOTIATIONS TO REACH PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT AND INDICATING WILLINGNESS TO OFFER GOOD OFFICES IN SUPPORT. OAKLEY REPLIED THAT USG COULD NOT OFFER GOOD OFFICES. WERNER WONDERED IF AMBASSADOR NEWSOM, IN FAREWELL STATEMENT IN MANILA, MIGHT MAKE GENERAL STATEMENT REGARDING SITUATION IN SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES EXPRESSING USG SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF MUSLIM PROBLEM. SCHAEFER SAID SUCH STATEMENT WOULD HAVE TREMENDOUS EFFECT ON CAC LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ATTITUDES.

5. OAKLEY AGREED TO INFORM AMBASSADOR NEWSOM OF CONVERSATION AND TO SEEK HIS VIEWS REGARDING DESIRABILITY OF GENERAL STATEMENT AS SUGGESTED BY WERNER.

6. MEMCON AND SCHAEFER MEMO REPORTING LUCMAN TELEPHONE CALL BEING POUCHED.

7. FOR MANILA. THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN OUR POSITION OF NON-INTERVENTION IN PHILIPPINE MUSLIM AFFAIRS. WE OBVIOUSLY CANNOT INDICATE SUPPORT FOR REBELS AGAINST GOP NOR CAN WE INVOLVE USG IN INTERNECINE MUSLIM SQUABBLES. WE SEE NO HARM, HOWEVER, IN AMBASSADOR STATING SUPPORT FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN SOUTH AND EXPRESSING HOPE THAT NEGOTIATIONS WILL MATERIALIZE AND BE SUCCESSFUL. REQUEST EMBASSY COMMENTS.

VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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